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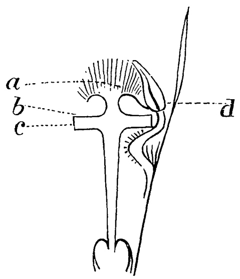
igynia. Specimens from Athens, Ill. (*E. Hall*, 1861), and from Prof. Babcock, Ill., in Herb. Olney, are very sparsely hispid-hairy. Specimens from Greene county, N. Y. (*E. C. Howe*, 1869) are conspicuously so. Dr. Chapman finds similar specimens at Rome, Georgia. The species occurs as far east as New Jersey.

GENERAL NOTES.

Some Abnormal Rudbeckias.—While botanizing in Central Arkansas last summer, my attention was called to a patch of *Rudbeckia hirta*. There were about 50 plants in bloom, and in at least half of the heads more or less of the ray flowers were quilled. Sometimes only one ray in the head was abnormal; in other heads several, and in quite a number of heads all the rays were quilled. Normal and abnormal heads occurred on the same plant. Some of the plants bore several heads, all of which were abnormal. The abnormal flowers were generally shorter than the normal. There was a great difference in the amount of quilling even in the same head, varying from a mere ring at the base to a tube extending nearly to the top. The end of the ray was usually two-toothed, as in the normal form. The plants were normal in height and had faultless stems and leaves. I am unable to account for this general teratological display, or to assign a reason why normal and abnormal plants were growing side by side, much less to account for normal and abnormal heads occurring on the same plant.—F. L. HARVEY, *Fayetteville, Ark.*

Cross-pollination in Vinca minor.—Le Maout and Decaisne say that in *Vinca minor* the "pollen is granular, applied directly to the stigma." From the abundance of well-protected nectar, and the elaborate arrangement of parts in the neighborhood of stigma and anthers, cross-pollination seems at least to be the presumption. The accompanying figure shows the relations of the parts concerned. The pollen falls from the whole anther in a single mass (a habit becoming much more decided in the allied *Asclepiadaceæ*) upon the edge of the pollen shelf (*b*). Often the five masses of pollen are found lying upon this shelf at the same time. The outer face of the shelf (*c*) is very viscid. Although the anthers (*d*) extend well up toward the stigmatic surface (*a*), the pollen masses are guided by an arrangement of hairs down upon the disk below. A proboscis (or needle) thrust down the line of the nectar guides passes between contiguous anthers, and rubbing along the viscid ring becomes so smeared that when withdrawn the pollen masses lying upon the edge of the shelf are also withdrawn, not in a mass, but broken up into a line of pollen grains. Every insertion of a



a. Stigmatic surface: *b*. pollen shelf: *c*. viscid ring: *d*. anther.

needle shows a line of pollen stuck fast to it. By the same thrust any adherent pollen is rubbed off upon the stigmatic hairs above. We have thus a neat arrangement by which the proboscis is smeared with a mucilage just before it reaches the pollen grains.—W. E. HUMPHREY, *Botanical Laboratory, Wabash College.*

A New Grass.—DEYEUXIA MACOUNIANA. Culm 60 to 90cm. high, slender, leafy: sheaths mostly as long as the internodes, smoothish; ligule about 2mm. long, lacerate; leaf-blades narrow, 15 to 25cm. long, attenuated to filiform point: panicle 10 to 12cm. long, narrow, open, 2 to 4cm. in width, branches mostly in fives, approximate, slender, erect: spikelets somewhat crowded on the upper part of the branches, 2mm. long: empty glumes nearly equal, purplish, lanceolate, acute, finely scabrous on the back: flowering glumes 1½mm. long, ovate-oblong, somewhat truncate and 2-lobed at the apex, the lobes finely denticulate; awn above the middle of the glume, straight, reaching to the apex: palet about one-third shorter than its glume, bifid, denticulate at apex: hairs copious, as long as the flowering glume.

The panicle resembles that of *Agrostis vulgaris*, and the flowers are smaller than those of any other of our species.

Collected in the N. W. Territory, British America, by *J. M. Macoun*, for whom it is named.—GEO VASEY.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

PROF. DR. J. ROEPER died at Rostock, Germany, on March 17, aged 84 years.

DR. AND MRS. GRAY have returned in good health and spirits from their western trip.

J. C. DÖLL, author of the Flora of Baden, died at Karlsruhe, Germany, on March 10, at 77 years of age.

PROF. PLANCHON, of Montpellier, has received the De Candolle prize of 500 francs for his memoir on the *Ampelidees.*

DR. JOHAN GRÉSZ, author of a work entitled *De Potentillis Hungariæ*, died on February 19th, at Csáktornya, aged 72.

IT SEEMS THAT holly leaves above the reach of cattle often lose their leaf spines; which is on a par with *Polygonum amphibium* developing pubescence when lacking isolation by water.

A WELL ILLUSTRATED article, by Rev. J. L. Zabriskie, on some Ascomycetous fungi, which grow out from caterpillars, grubs and scale insects, is given in the April number of the *Journal of the N. Y. Microscopial Society.*

PROF. F. L. SCRIBNER, formerly of Girard College, has been appointed assistant botanist to the Department of Agriculture, and will devote his attention chiefly to microscopic fungi, especially those affecting and injuring cultivated plants.